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Sub  
b2  
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A1  
Cont

comprising the step of administering to [said] the patient [a therapeutic amount of] a pharmacologic cardiovascular agent after surgery, ~~wherein said patient did not receive the pharmacologic cardiovascular agent prior to surgery for treatment of a preexisting cardiovascular condition; thereby preventing myocardial infarction in the patient]~~ near the maximum effective dose of the agent while the patient's heart rate is greater than or equal to 65 bpm, while the patient's systolic blood pressure is greater than or equal to 100 mm Hg, and while the patient evidences no congestive heart failure, third degree heart block, or bronchospasm wherein the pharmacologic agent is administered daily in the period after surgery.

2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 in which the agent is administered daily in the period after surgery until hospital discharge.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim 2 in which the agent is administered daily in the period after surgery for at least three days.

4. (Amended) The method of Claim 2 in which the agent is administered daily in the period after surgery for up to seven days.

Please add the following new claims:

Sub  
b2  
R2

--49. (New) A method for reducing cardiovascular disease complications in a patient following surgery comprising the step of administering to the patient a pharmacologic cardiovascular agent after surgery wherein the agent is

a) administered daily in the period after surgery near the maximum effective dose of the agent while the patient's heart rate is greater than or equal to 65 bpm, while the patient's systolic blood pressure is greater than or equal to 100 mm Hg, and while the patient evidences no congestive heart failure, third degree heart block, or bronchospasm; and

b) administered daily in the period after surgery at about one half of the maximum effective dose of the agent while the patient's heart rate is greater than or equal to 55 bpm, but less than 65 bpm, while the patient's systolic blood pressure is